

INVESTIGATED RUSSIAN KICKS

Governor Makes Inquiries About
Alleged Overcharging of
Laborers.

NONE HAVE BEEN FOUND

Believes Ignorance of Newcomers
Is Alone the Cause and
Expects Betterment.

Russian laborers, who returned to Honolulu a few weeks ago from Kauai, advanced as their reasons for leaving the plantations the fact that the plantations were overcharging them, that the plantations were making them pay house rent and that they were being paid less than the agreed scale of wages. A number of the Russians were interviewed by The Advertiser and the substance of their complaint passed on to the authorities for investigation.
As a result of the investigation, Governor Frear yesterday announced that he was convinced that the various troubles arose through the ignorance of the newcomers and their childishness in regard to money values, contracts and agreements.
He expressed hopefulness in the ultimate outcome of the Russian experiment.

On the complaint of Russian immigrants who arrived here a few months ago that they were compelled to pay exceedingly high prices for supplies furnished them by plantation stores, run by the companies, Governor Frear took up the matter at once and has received answers which indicate that the prices charged for certain necessities have been and were considerably under the prices quoted in the complaints.

They stated in their complaint that granulated and brown sugars were sold to them at very high prices, \$8 per hundredweight for the former. The Governor's source of information gives this sugar at nearly \$2 less. They sell the brown sugar at four to five cents, which is much lower than the prices complained of.

Potatoes are selling at about half the prices quoted by the Russians, who complained that their spuds cost five dollars a sack.

In all instances the plantation store on Kauai, which furnished the Governor their current list of prices, showed that the Russians were at fault when they made their complaints, and he can only arrive at the conclusion that their ignorance of the value of American money is at the bottom of the trouble.

The Governor states that the plantations realize that the Russians prefer their black flour to the white produced by American mills and are making an effort to lay in a sufficient supply to meet the demand.

Plantation Stores a Benefit.

As to the criticism against the plantations running stores the Governor says he believes it would be a great mistake to do away with them. In the first place they carry a very large stock of general merchandise, and their stocks comprise items that the Japanese, Chinese and Portuguese stores do not carry.

In the second place the Governor asserts that the plantations store keep the prices down in order to keep other storekeepers' prices down, or rather to prevent them from putting and keeping prices up. Keeping prices normal is a safeguard to the laborers who derive an additional benefit from the plantations running the stores. Only recently a complaint reached the Governor from some Portuguese storekeepers on Hawaii who alleged that the plantations stores undersold them and they were not making as much money as they believed they should.

Cost of Living High.

"Prices of supplies nowadays are high," said the Governor. "I refer to this in a general way, for we all know that ourselves, and high prices is now one of the great questions all over the world."

"It shows the importance of getting these people to cultivate a little piece of land so as to help them out in their food supplies. If they can grow their own potatoes, for instance, for they are consumers of potatoes in large quantities, so much the better for their wages. A great many plantation laborers are doing this."

The Governor has also heard of the complaint about two dollars a month being held for rent of their houses. This is explained as follows:

House Installments.

The laborers who engage to do day labor receive their full wages, say \$22 a month. Those who entered into a contract with the company to perform labor for a certain period, say three years, do so under the agreement that the plantation furnish them a house which costs in the neighborhood of \$300. The house is built on about an acre of ground. If the laborer works faithfully, doing not less than an average of twenty days work throughout the entire three years, the house and acre of land become his own. This is a sound, honest, is not one-sided, for

M'CARTHY CAN'T OUST THE BOARD

Decision Adverse to Bay City's
Mayor Is Handed Down
by Court.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 3.—Judge Sturtevant yesterday made permanent the injunction restraining the McCarthy board of education from acting. In his opinion the judge says that the Taylor appointees constitute the de facto commission in that Mayor P. H. McCarthy has no authority to remove them except for cause.

This decision of Judge Sturtevant constitutes the first defeat of Mayor McCarthy in his attempt to oust all of former Mayor Taylor's appointees from office.

Considerable bitterness was engendered by McCarthy's action in removing the Taylor board of education and appointing a board of his own. McCarthy insisted that he had ample grounds for removing the members of the board and threatened dire vengeance on the heads of the members if they fought back.

A REMEDY WHICH NEVER FAILS.

Diarrhoea should be cured without loss of time and by a medicine which like Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy not only cures promptly but produces no unpleasant after effects. It never fails and is pleasant and safe to take. For sale by all dealers, Benson, Smith & Co., Agents for Hawaii.

The plantation requires that the laborer turn in two dollars a month. At the end of three years or thirty-six months the total of these two-dollar payments amounts to \$72, which is considered a small price to pay for a house and lot, which becomes absolutely the holding of the laborer. Apparently the Russians, who are childlike in their ignorance of the value of American money, contracts and agreements, have entered into such agreements, but when the two dollars is deducted believe they have not been fairly dealt with.

Plain Truths in Russian.

Governor Frear has received a suggestion that the board of immigration prepare a carefully compiled statement of prices of food supplies, wages on plantations, difference between day and contract labor, and exactly what each laborer receives and the method of obtaining supplies at the plantation stores, to be printed in Russian, so that the agents in Manchuria may give the emigrants an official pamphlet containing the proper kind of information before they leave their homes. The suggestion has been made, also, that these pamphlets be given to every Russian making application to come to Hawaii, and that no man be recruited as an emigrant until it is ascertained that he thoroughly understands conditions here. In this way the territorial representatives would have no necessity to make statements and the immigrants could not then accuse them of having misstated facts.

No Misrepresentations.

The latest information from the board of immigration agents in Manchuria is that nothing but the absolute truth is being told the emigrants and that, as a matter of fact, it is actually not necessary to promise anything beyond free transportation to get all the laborers required. A. L. C. Atkinson, writing to Richard Ivers, chairman of the board of immigration, under date of January 25, from Dairen, South Manchuria, states that the Russians there are anxious to come to Hawaii on any terms.

Mr. Ivers forwards a copy of a portion of this letter to The Advertiser, with the following note:

To Correct Impressions.

Editor Advertiser:—In connection with the repeated statements made by some of the recently arrived Russian immigrants now in this city, to the effect that they had been "greatly deceived" by the representatives of the board of immigration now in Manchuria, in regard to the inducements to be offered them upon arrival in this Territory, the enclosed extract from a letter received by the board from A. L. C. Atkinson may prove of interest as bearing upon this phase of the situation. Yours truly,

R. IVERS.

Anxious to Come.

The extract from Mr. Atkinson's letter says: "With regard to my 'completing literally with your instructions as to inducements mentioned therein,' I feel that I am on the safe side for the reason that in all of our examinations we are offering absolutely no inducements outside of free passage to those who apply and who are desirous to emigrate to Hawaii. I would say for your information that this rule has been adhered to rigidly, as I believe it to be the best. As a matter of fact the people have heard from others in the islands and have come to us with letters showing how well a certain family is doing out there in Hawaii, and then express their desire to me to join them. In each case where we have examined people we have received petitions, letters and telegrams from those sections of the country and I have sent advance agents to engage rooms and say that we will be there on such and such a date to examine them. As soon as we get there we are literally swamped with applicants. In many instances I have asked them what they know about Hawaii and whether anyone has ever promised them anything there, and they all reply that what they know of the country is what they have heard from people already there and what is the talk of the neighborhood, and that no one has offered them any inducements or made them any promises whatsoever. Some know about the current rate of wages in Hawaii, but the great majority of them do not care, all they care for is an opportunity to make a living in some other country, in fact to just get a chance somewhere else in the world."

GRAMMAR OF HAWAII DEFECTIVE

Imperative Mood and Future
Tense Not Distinguishable
and Court Interprets.

(From Thursday's Advertiser.)
The supreme court rendered an opinion yesterday in the case of Mary N. Simerson vs. William Kukai Simerson, a minor, by his guardian W. K. Simerson, in which the syllabus gives the conclusions as follows:

A deed conveying "absolutely" to A "and her heirs forever" reserving all rights and income for lives of grantor and wife upon condition that grantee "can not" sell or mortgage and that after her death the land "is to descend" to her son and after born children "and their heirs and assigns forever" gives the grantee the fee which is not reduced to a life estate by the condition against alienation.

The suit grew out of land devised to their Simerson heirs. On July 29, 1907, William Kalaehao conveyed to his daughter Mary Nanea Simerson a certain piece of land situated on Nuuanu avenue. The grantor and his wife have since died, and the grantee has not paid the mortgage and has no other child than William, named in the conveyance, whose guardian joins the submission. The question is did the grantee take under the deed an absolute fee simple subject to the mortgage and life estate reserved to the grantor and his wife, and is the fee in the grantee's son William subject to a life estate only in the mother, the grantee, as well as to the terms of the mortgage and rights of after born children. The plaintiff claims that the fee is granted to her by the words of conveyance and description of the persons taking the land.

The interpretation of the words of the conveyance are rather puzzling according to the following statement of the opinion which is written by Chief Justice Hartwell:

The Hawaiian deed, of which a copy has been filed by request of court, shows that the English version appears to have been adapted to forms in English deeds. For instance, it has no formal habendum, but in place of it, immediately after the clauses marked 1 and 2 requiring that the grantee shall not sell or mortgage the land and shall pay the mortgage on it, appear the words which literally may be translated, "The land is gone (Hilo), all the rights and the benefits upon it to said Mary Nanea Simerson immediately after my dying," and next following, "and upon her dying the land will (or shall) descend (it, usually meaning go as an inheritance and translated by the parties as "descend") upon her child (or shall) not sell or mortgage it and will pay off its mortgage and that at her death it will (or shall) descend to her children. These expressions are equally futile in their effect upon the fee granted to the plaintiff.

"Mongoose" Wanted.

Judge Whitney has ordered Mongoose to appear in court tomorrow morning at nine o'clock. Judicial cognizance has not been taken of the little pest which robs hen nests, but one John Costa, alias "Mongoose" at Kahu plantation. He has been subpoenaed as a witness in the case of the Territory versus Joseph Freitas.

Railroad Bonds for Sale.

Two Oahu Railway & Land Co.'s bonds of the par value of \$2000 have been ordered by Judge Robinson to be sold at the proceeds may be applied to taking up a mortgage on the Lazarus estate property. The estate controls railroad stock and bonds, and the two bonds will relieve the property of mortgage indebtedness.

Court Notes.

Judge Robinson has issued an order approving the accounts of Thomas A. Birmingham, administrator of the estate of Stuart Porteus Birmingham, deceased. The administrator has done all things a good and faithful steward should do, and he is discharged from all further liability.

F. M. Swanzy, auxiliary administrator with the will annexed of the estate within the Hawaiian Islands of Thos. Rain Walker, has been discharged by order of the court, having complied with the will provisions and discharged his duties faithfully. The inheritance tax has been paid to the Territory.

A discontinuance has been filed in the circuit court of the action of Heo Fat versus Tong Kau. The former sued for the recovery of \$1007, alleged to be due on promissory notes.

Before the supreme court this morning in the case of the Territory vs. Charles Chamberlain, a hearing will be held on two motions to dismiss defendant's appeal from the decision of the Waikiki judge.

Satisfaction of judgment is filed in the suit of Wong Shue against Heo Fat, in which Bishop & Co. were garnishees. Judge Robinson granted a divorce to Koto Tagami against Shigeto Tagami for non-support.

Final accounts of Henry Waterhouse Trust Company, administrator of the estate of John H. Hull, were approved by Judge Robinson. There are three heirs, living in England.

Judge Robinson sustained the demurrer in Mary Kawai vs. Yee Yee, giving ten days to amend the complaint.

BRILLIANT OPENING OF THE NEW HOTEL IN HILO TOWN



Big Island Society Had the Affair in Hand and
Made the Event One of Prime
Importance.

HILO, Hawaii, February 26.—The Hilo Hotel was formally thrown open to the public this evening, the opening event being in the nature of a reception and ball, taken part in by the leading society folks of the Big Island. The affair was successful to a very high degree, pleasing alike to those who came as guests, to those who worked to make the opening a noteworthy event and to the host and his assistants.

During the day the ladies of Hilo transformed the interior and grounds into veritable floral bowers. The preparations began with the rising of the sun and the end was not reached until nearly dusk. The ladies of Hilo had the matter in hand and Mrs. G. H. Vicens, as general chairman, was everywhere in evidence, and the results of a lot of very hard work were most satisfactory. With the first automobile from the countryside came masses of tropical vines and roses—real roses, not the paper, odorless affairs, to which many of the Honolulu people are accustomed, but real and fragrant blossoms that have been made possible to Hilo and suburbs through the efforts of Brother Matthias and the fungus he has distributed among the people.

From Olua came iele vines and lilies, whole banks of them, and then more roses and other tropical plants. Huapala was provided from the trees in the vicinity of the hotel and hala was brought from somewhere else. The delicate jessamine and the more hardy leaves from the birdnest ferns were utilized in many ways. Ginger blossoms and papayas mingled in the various rooms with the fronds of the fahail ferns. There was certainly a riot of plant decorations and they were harmonious in scheme and execution. A big cabinet in a corner of the parlor was filled with roses and on the piano was a bank of the same flowers so large that, the combination suggested wedding bells and a minister.

This morning Mrs. John Watt of Olua, Mrs. W. H. C. Campbell of Pihonua, Mrs. Harriet Hitebeck and Mrs. Thos. Guard, who have homes and roses in Olua as well as Hilo, deluged the committee with flowers of every description and as a consequence the rooms and verandas as well as the band stand on the lawn are masses of choice flowers. That there would be no confusion the house and grounds for the occasion were apportioned among the members of the committee on decorations. Mrs. G. H. Vicens was general chairman and the subcommittees were composed of ladies with artistic ability above the commonplace. The verandas, those on the first floor, were in the hands of Mrs. R. T. Moses, Mrs. A. A. Wilson and Miss Louise Greenfield. The parlor was passed over to Mrs. William H. Smith, Mrs. Thomas Guard and Miss Harriet Hitebeck. Mrs. Chr. Castendyk used Japanese lanterns, bamboo and greens from Olua on the bandstand until it resembled a booth in a church fair. The ballroom was decorated by Mrs. H. V. Patten, the Misses Clara, Florence and Carolyn Shipman. The upper veranda was attended to by Mrs. H. V. Eliot and Miss C. M. Cameron, a Honolulu lady visiting here.

There were two set pieces: Over the entrance is the word "Welcome" in fern fronds on a base of fishnet with the word wrought in red poinsettia. The other was on the wall opposite the entrance to the ballroom, "Aloha" being worked with marigold on a base of maidenhair ferns. The effect in both cases was charming. The parlor which, until the decorating committee took charge, contained very handsome and massive mahogany easy chairs, was laid bare so it could be used by the reception committee; for Hilo town was out to make the hotel popular.

People from a distance began to arrive by four o'clock and before seven in the evening many of the rooms were occupied. The Hilo band took a position in the stand on the lawn and a string quartet was stationed on the veranda.

The diningroom, constructed on a plan that allows almost a laud effect, the French windows being close together, and the buffet were made beautiful by the introduction of a number of American and Hawaiian flags and ferns in tubs. Numerous small tables were placed in this room and at a side counter were fruit punch and lemonade in enormous cutglass bowls and other refreshments and between the dances this room was occupied by the guests. Everything was as free as air and a more joyous gathering has not been seen here in years.

The white population of Hilo seems to have increased during the past few years and while the ladies here always have noted for the elegance and beauty of their houses, it seems that on this occasion they outshone themselves.

A First-Class Hotel.

Exceedingly roomy well disposed toward the hotel management and many

where the wishes for the success of this undertaking, which seems to be recognized by the full and which is believed by many to be something into which the town must grow. Much will depend upon the support the local people give the hotel. A steamer once a week on a schedule that allows but an occasional meal at the hotel is not encouraging to the man who has put a fortune into the enterprise. If this condition could be changed and the Mauna Kea sent to Hilo twice each week there is no doubt the hotel would be well patronized because the passengers would have an opportunity to remain over long enough to learn something of the most beautiful town in the islands.

The hotel undoubtedly will be patronized by the local people and the transportation companies should fix their schedules so that the passengers would have privileges not now enjoyed. The old cry that there is no place to stop if people should go there is in history only. The house is here, well furnished, and the service is excellent. Mrs. Simerson, the housekeeper, is uniting in her efforts to make her guests comfortable, and the acting manager of the hotel, Demosthenes Lycurgus, showed his good quality in this gathering of four hundred people tonight. He is a host par excellence and a cordial greeting has been extended to everyone who enters the place. He makes the guests feel at home and his efforts seem to be appreciated.

Practically everything is finished about the house. A hook here and there may add to the comfort of the occupants, but there is nothing of a serious nature lacking. The cottages are so well furnished that they draw remarks from persons who would naturally pass such things by without comment. The Hilo Hotel is one of the biggest things in the growth of Hilo and there is land around it in sufficient quantity to allow additional growth of the hotel should the additions to the population and increase of travel demand it.

The appointments of the place are as good as modern hotel construction can make them. Every room is connected with the office by electric bells. The ceilings are high and admit of free circulation of air. The broad verandas on both floors are inviting and the occupants of the cottages cannot but admire the arrangements made especially for their convenience. The tourists to the volcano can now feel that they have a comfortable place to rest in Hilo before proceeding on their way and each one should prepare his itinerary so as to allow a stop of at least a day in Hilo so the sights which nature has provided may be visited.

Where Roses Bloom.

Hilo is a garden of beautiful roses. The house gardens are filled with plants that fill the air with fragrance, and there are blossoms lacking in fragrance, but none the less attractive to the eye and the owners are as prodigal with them as if they were blades of grass. They act on the principle that the Creator had sent them to beautify the earth and to bring pleasure to the heart, consequently roses are in view everywhere and at all times. Particularly large and beautiful are those which grow in Olua and on the hills back of the city. The higher elevation, and greater moisture, perhaps, may be the reason for the prolific bearing of the plants.

Busy Improvers.

Hilo ladies will rise to an occasion with vim and vigor that may be due to the climate or to the desire to make every social function a success. Nor does the work confine itself solely to social matters. An improvement club is in existence here and the results are visible on every side. It is the work of Hilo ladies who are aiding in the growth of Hilo. Not in the extension of streets and sidewalks nor in the construction of roads and buildings, but in putting the place in shape to be admired by the people who come here. It is not an exaggeration to say that Hilo is the most beautiful place in the Territory and the ladies of the improvement club intend that it shall be kept so. The work is noticeable in the locality of the Moheau Park, a section of the town that had been, practically, turned over to the sons and daughters of Nippon.

RED CROSS WILL AID
VICTIMS OF FLOOD

WASHINGTON, March 2.—The National Red Cross has taken steps to render aid to the suffering families in the flooded districts of the Ohio river valley and in New York.

STORM KING IS SUPREME STILL

Floods Devastate Many Parts of
the Mainland and Loss Is
Heavy.

COMMUNICATION DESTROYED

Score of Trains Stalled at Ogden
With No Hope of Immediate
Relief.

SEATTLE, March 3.—Warm winds are melting the snow in the Cascades and causing the worst floods that have been known in twenty years. Colfax is now under six feet of water and business in the town is entirely suspended.

Railroad tracks have been washed out, bridges have been carried away and whole towns have been isolated. Telephone and telegraph wires are down in many parts of the State and communication has been entirely broken.

Four Thousand Homeless.

CLEVELAND, March 3.—Four thousand persons are homeless as the result of the floods which are devastating the State of Ohio. The damages up to date exceed \$1,000,000 and there appears to be no hope of immediate relief. Floods from the swollen waters of the Ohio have rendered thousands along the banks of the river homeless, and a most pitiful condition prevails in many sections. Whole towns are imperiled by the rising waters.

Twenty Trains Stalled.

OGDEN, March 3.—A score of trains are stalled here and hundreds of passengers are marooned, unable to proceed on their journeys or to turn back. Landslides have covered the railway tracks and in many instances roadbeds have been entirely obliterated. It will require a week at least to clear the way and make the repairs necessary in order to allow the trains to proceed. Passengers on the stalled trains are suffering intense discomfort from the blockade. Reports of washouts on the railroads are constantly coming in, and the repair gangs are unable to make much headway.

Espe Only Running.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 2.—The storm still holds the West and Middle West completely in its grip. Today the Southern Pacific is the only transcontinental line that is able to put its trains through.

LIST OF WRECK VICTIMS
IS STEADILY GROWING

Fate of Many Buried Beneath
Avalanche Is as Yet
Uncertain.

EVERETT, Washington, March 3.—The list of dead in the train wreck caused at the western entrance to the Cascade tunnel through an avalanche which carried two trains to the bottom of a precipice may reach eighty-four. Seventeen bodies have already been recovered from beneath the mountain of snow, but sixty-seven passengers and trainmen are still missing. The work of digging out the bodies is being carried on with all possible dispatch.

JEFF DAVIS MUST STAND
BY RECKLESS SPEECH

Senate Refuses to Expunge Remarks
From Record.

WASHINGTON, March 2.—Senator Jeff Davis of Arkansas failed to secure the favor of the senate today on a matter connected with one of his reckless assertions. The senator asked that the privilege be given him to strike from the Congressional Record his statement that he would receive a fee if a bill he advocated passed. This privilege was denied.

SENATE APPROVES BONDS
FOR IRRIGATION WORK

WASHINGTON, March 2.—The senate today passed the bill providing for the issuance of thirty millions of government bonds to provide funds for the federal irrigation projects.

TWO DIE IN WRECK ON
THE GREAT NORTHERN

SPOKANE, March 2.—The Great Northern Limited, one of the fastest trains on the northern routes, was wrecked near here today. The train was derailed, and two lives were lost.